Claims:

1. Use of the "Parkinson's Disease (PD)-susceptibility haplotype", as herein defined, as a tool for the prediction of PD risk and severity in a population and/or an individual.

2. A diagnostic method of predicting susceptibility to PD, based on the detection of the "PD-susceptibility haplotype", as herein defined, in an individual.

3. A method of screening for a genetic predisposition to PD, wherein said method involves the steps of:
   (a) providing a blood sample from an individual to be screened;
   (b) analyzing the DNA from the blood sample of (a) for the presence or absence of the "PD-susceptibility haplotype", as herein defined, by appropriate means;
   wherein the presence of the "PD-susceptibility haplotype" indicates a higher predisposition to PD, and the absence of the "PD-susceptibility haplotype" indicates a lower predisposition to PD, compared to a control.

4. A method of testing a blood sample of a human subject for the presence of the "PD-susceptibility haplotype", by analyzing the DNA of said blood sample by appropriate means, wherein the presence of the "PD-susceptibility haplotype" indicates a higher predisposition of said human subject to PD, and the absence of the "PD-susceptibility haplotype" indicates a lower predisposition of said human subject to PD, compared to a control.

5. A kit for screening for a genetic predisposition to PD, including
   (a) means for collecting a blood sample;
   (b) reagents for detecting the presence of the "PD-susceptibility haplotype".